

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

A process for resolving or enriching (R,S) 2-amino-6-propylamino-4,5,6,7-tetrahydrobenzothiazole (pramipexole) into optical isomers uses a monovalent salt thereof, e.g. pramipexole monohydrochloride, as a substrate. The monovalent salt is treated with an optically active acid, e.g. with L(+)-tartaric acid, to yield a diastereomeric mixed salt. The mixed salt is subjected to fractional crystallization to yield an optically enriched mixed salt. The mixed salt can be treated with base to liberate the desired isomer of pramipexole.